

Quileute Tribe, La Push, Washington



QUILEUTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

WC Docket No. 10-90

Expression of Interest in FCC Rural Broadband Experiments by the Quileute Tribe of La Push, Washington

Nature of the submitting entity

The **Quileute Tribe** submits this letter of expression of interest in the FCC Rural Broadband Experiments project for 2014. The Quileute Tribe is a small tribe located on the extreme western coast of Washington State. The population of the Quileute Reservation is 460 (2010 Census data.) The Quileute Reservation is an isolated rural area 15 miles from the nearest town offering substantial services and 75 miles from the City of Port Angeles, the Clallam County seat and center of commercial services in the county.

The Quileute Tribe has a large number of low to moderate income people. The mean annual household income on the reservation is \$30,438 (2000 Census), compared to a mean annual household income for Washington State of \$58,890. Mean annual household income on the reservation is just 53% of the state level. Of 124 household, 99 (80%) have annual household incomes less than 80% of the Washington State mean.

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The Quileute Tribe is a federally recognized tribe. The Quileute Tribal Council is the duly constituted governing body of the Quileute Tribe and reservation, by the authority of the Quileute Tribal Constitution and the By-Laws of the Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation, of Washington State. QTC has granted the Tribal Chair the authority to execute legal agreements with all federal, state, and local agencies on behalf of the Quileute Tribe.

The Quileute Tribal Council administers the political and government-to-government relations of the Quileute Tribe. It consists of 5 members who are elected to three-year staggered terms by the Quileute General Council. The Quileute General Council consists of all enrolled adult Quileute Tribal members. The Quileute Tribal Council organizes itself yearly and elects a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Member-at-Large. The administrative structure of the Quileute Tribal Council reflects its long-term experience and commitment to the provision of services for implementing the General Council's goals and objectives. The Quileute Tribal Council has seven primary executive departments which consist of Housing, Education, Health, Law and Justice, Council Operations, Natural Resources, and Human Services.

Proposed service area identification

The service area covered by this proposed project is the Quileute Indian Reservation and the village of La Push, Washington on the reservation. The reservation is within Clallam County in Washington State, census tract ID 53090004. There are 196 eligible high cost locations within the census tract and 22 extremely high cost locations. The estimated annual support for the census tract is \$230,518.70.

Within the Quileute reservation the tribe has 18 locations that provide governmental administration, human services, public safety, health services, and education, and enterprise operations. Included in these facilities are the Quileute Health Center, Quileute Tribal School, Quileute Head Start, La Push Police Department and Tribal Court, senior services, social services, and tribal administration. There are 142 occupied housing units on the reservation.

The U.S. Coast Guard maintains a base of operations from La Push.

Broadband technologies to be deployed

The Quileute Tribe is evaluating several options to determine the most cost effective and viable solutions to the needs in this rural and remote community. The goal is to provide broadband internet connectivity to allow access for education, healthcare, public safety, tribal administration, and business and personal uses. Solutions have been proposed that include construction of a fiber optic connection from the nearest point where the existing fiber network ends, a distance of six miles, or connection via digital microwave to provide broadband

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capacity. Either solution can provide capacity in the 100-200Mb range for service distribution. Either of these solutions can bring broadband service to a central point within the village.

Distribution of service within the community is will be by two methods; either 1) construction of fiber optic networks to deliver services to buildings, or point to point and/or point to multipoint distribution via 802.16 Wi-Max wireless transmission. The topography and availability of existing tower facilities within the village of La Push can allow wireless area distribution to be an effective last mile connection for services and may provide the most cost effective means of distribution.

Contemplated service offerings

Service offerings for the broadband capacity to be developed are several; high speed internet access for business and personal users, email and other related communications, video teleconferencing for education, health care, and business applications, and voice over IP telephone services are some of the projected services.

Some of the expected applications that will be enhanced by broadband access include:

- Web-based accounting, purchasing, and inventory systems
- Email and related communications.
- Telephone via voice over IP and video teleconferencing
- Curriculum delivery for classroom use by students at the Quileute Tribal School
- Testing and performance evaluation for students at the Quileute Tribal School
- Provide community members with enhanced access to online coursework for post-secondary education programs and professional training, advancement, and certification.
- Improved access for public safety for communications, records management, case documentation.
- Allow greater capacity for cultural and language preservation programs with online data storage and delivery of materials.
- Provide capacity for business enhancement, including online ecommerce and marketing, enhance reservation systems for resort and marina, and enhanced clientele experience for businesses on the reservation.

Expected state/local/tribal participation

The Quileute Tribe is committed to enhancing broadband service to the Quileute Reservation for enhancing educational, social, health, public safety, and governmental services. The Quileute Tribal Currently is participating in a regional broadband enhancement program on the Olympic Peninsula that is exploring the many issues surrounding the needs and options for support in this rural and remote are. The tribes proposal for this project will be for one-time

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funding for infrastructure development with ongoing support for data services provided for within the tribe's operating budget and funds provided to the Quileute Tribal School, Quileute Health Clinic through Federal Universal Service funds and other contract support.

One time funding request

This request will be a one-time funding request to provide the construction and installation costs. Service providers have provided estimated costs for installation options.

The cost of a six mile construction of fiber optic cable is estimated at \$546,000. This option can provide 100Mb Ethernet service for distribution within the community with an ongoing per month cost of approximately \$3,200.

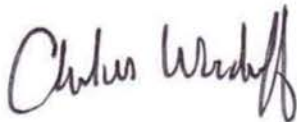
Cost estimates for a wireless connections using microwave relays have need approximately \$90,000 for the necessary transmission and receiving equipment, with annual tower space lease fees approximately \$4,000 plus \$25-30 per Mb/month for data service in the 100-150Mb range.

Wide area network distribution of to final users estimate \$100,000 for costs to install fiber optic cable to service addresses. Wireless distribution to service points has estimated installation costs of \$45,000 for point to multipoint transceivers and associated receiving equipment for Wi-Max connections.

The total amount of the project depends upon the specific method delivery of services, with a range from approximately \$200,000 for an all wireless installation to \$650,000 for fiber optic based system.

The Quileute Tribe appreciates the opportunity to participate in this important project and views this as an opportunity to enhance the tribal operations and have a powerful impact the well-being of the people of La Push.

Sincerely;



Mr. Charles Woodruff
Chairman, Quileute Tribal Council